

REMARKS**I. Introduction.**

Claims 1-17 are pending, and stand rejected. Claims 1 and 3-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102, or in the alternative, under Section 103. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103.

II. The Rejections.**A. The Rejection of Claims 1 and 3-17.**

Claims 1 and 3-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent 5,259,848 issued to Terry, et al.

The Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) rejection of Claims 1 and 3-17 be reconsidered and withdrawn. The Terry, et al. reference does not teach or disclose all of the elements of the process described in these claims. Specifically, the Terry, et al. reference only teaches the application of an ammonium salt in combination with peroxide and a fluorinated alkyl sulfonic acid "in any convenient manner, including by spray bottle or blotting it onto the stain" (Col. 3, lines 25-26). The Terry, et al. reference does not specifically teach or disclose a process of cleaning a carpet comprising the steps of applying a liquid carpet cleaning composition onto a carpet using an electrically operated spraying device; leaving said composition to substantially dry onto said carpet; and, at least partially removing said composition. The Terry, et al. reference cannot serve to support a Section 102(b) rejection.

The Applicants also respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. Section 103 rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn. As discussed above, the Terry, et al. reference does not teach or disclose, or render obvious, applying a liquid carpet cleaning composition onto a carpet using an electrically operated spraying device; leaving said composition to substantially dry onto said carpet; and, at least partially removing said composition. To the contrary, the Terry, et al. reference appears to be directed to a "spotter" type cleaner which is applied to a small area of carpet, so there would be no motivation for one skilled in the art to use an electrically operated spraying device to apply the Terry, et al. composition to a carpet. Therefore, the Terry, et al. reference does not render the claimed process obvious.

B. The Rejection of Claim 2.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,259,848 issued to Terry, et al. as applied to Claims 1 and 3-17, and in view of U.S. Patent 6,403,547 issued to Grippaudo, et al.


The Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) rejection of Claim 2 be reconsidered and withdrawn. The combination of references does not teach or disclose, or render obvious, a process of cleaning a carpet comprising the steps of applying a liquid carpet cleaning composition onto a carpet using an electrically operated spraying device; leaving said composition to substantially dry onto said carpet; and, at least partially removing said composition. The combination of references, therefore, does not render the claimed process obvious.

III. Summary.

All of the rejections have been addressed. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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